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SHUMAKER & SIEFFERT, P. A. 8425 SEASONS PARKWAY SUITE 105 ST. PAUL, MN 55125			BHANDARI, PUNEET	
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			2666	

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/036,603

Applicant(s)

RASHID ET AL.

Examiner

Puneet Bhandari

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 39-78 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 39-78 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/10/2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Double Patenting

1. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claim 39 is provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 50 of copending Application No.10/036602. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because of following correspondences.

Regarding claim 39, A crossbar-bar switch corresponds to "An apparatus" of claim 39 of copending application, comprising; a set of input ports to receive data packets corresponds to "*a set of input ports to receive data packets*" of claim 39 of copending application; a set of sink ports in communication with said set of input ports to receive and forward said data packets corresponds to "*a set of sink ports in communication with said set of input ports to receive and forward said data packets*" of claim 39 of copending application; a first port address table adapted to identify a plurality of destinations supported by a first sink port in said set of sink ports

corresponds to *"look-up table coupled to said sink request port containing entries that correlate destination addresses to sink ports in said set of sink ports"* of claim 50 of copending application

Claim 39 differ from of claim 50 of copending application for following reasons. Claim 39 does not claim, "a set of data rings coupling said set of input ports and said set of sink ports; and a multi-sink port coupled to a data ring in said set of data rings and a sink port in said set of sink ports. A ring interface coupled to said set of data rings to receive data; a storage buffer coupled to said ring interface to receive and store data; and a sink request port coupled to said storage buffer to receive data from said storage buffer and transmit said data". Therefore claim 39 merely broaden the scope of claim 51 of the copending application.

It has been held that the omission of an element and its function is an obvious expedient if the remaining elements perform the same function as before. See *In re Karlosn*, 136 USPQ 184 (CCPA). Also not *Ex parte Rainu*, 168 USPQ 375 (Bd. App. 1969). The omission of reference element whose function is not needed would have been obvious to one skilled in art.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims **39-78** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dai et al (US 6,658016).

Regarding claim **39**, A cross-bar switch is anticipated *"packet transfer switching devices"* disclosed in column 6, lines 27-31; comprising:

A set of input ports to receive data packets is anticipated by *"input ports 88 designated as A_0 ", A_1 ", A_7 "* disclosed in Fig 3A or column 8, lines 5-8

A set of sink ports coupled to the set of input ports to receive and forward said data packets is anticipated by *"output-ports 84 designated as A_0' , A_1' , A_7' "* disclosed in Fig 3A or column 8, lines 5-8;

A first port address table adapted to identify a plurality of destinations supported by a first sink port in said set of sink port is anticipated by *"packet routing table 304 identifies the (sink port) destination port which is communicatively coupled to the destination end node specified by the destination address"* disclosed in column 14, lines 12-28.

Regarding claim **40**, the cross-bar switch of claim 39, further including: a set of port address tables, wherein each port address table in said set of port address tables is adapted to identify a plurality of destinations supported by a sink port in said set of sink ports is anticipated by *"destination identification mapping table"* disclosed in column 23, lines 25-64.

Regarding claim **41**, the apparatus of claim 39, further including:

A second port address table adapted to identify second destination as being supported by second sink port in said set of sink ports is anticipated by *“second destination mapping table portion for providing mapping between destination ID and corresponding destination ports”* disclosed in column 23, lines 35-47;

Wherein said first port address table identifies said second destination as being supported by said first sink port is anticipated by *“packet routing control units reads the packet routing table to determine a destination port for each packet”* disclosed in column 23, lines 1-5.

Regarding claim **42**, wherein said first port address table is adapted to store data identifying a plurality of destinations supported by said first sink port is anticipated by *“first destination mapping table portion for providing mapping between destination ID and corresponding destination ports”* disclosed in column 23, lines 35-47;

Regarding claim **43**, wherein each sink port in said set of sink ports is adapted to concurrently receive plurality of data packets having different destination addresses is anticipated by *“while the data stream is being received at the data ring input it is also simultaneously transmitted from the appropriate one of network output ports”* disclosed on page 8, lines 55-61.

Regarding claim **44**, a set of data rings in communication with said set of input ports and said set of sink ports is anticipated by *“data ring 19 and control ring 25 communicating with said set of input and output ports”* as disclosed in column 6, lines 26-51 or Fig 3A.

Regarding claim **45**, wherein said set of data rings couples each of sink port in said set of sink ports to each input port in said set of input ports is anticipated by “data ring 19 and control ring 25 inter-coupling the switching devices” as disclosed in column 6, lines 49-51 or Fig 3A.

Regarding claim **46**, wherein each sink port in said set of sink ports snoops data packets on each data ring in said set of data rings is anticipated by “*data distribution unit coupled to sink port is operative to read header information of the data burst received from packet buffer of associated source device*”, disclosed in column 15, lines 35-44”

Regarding claim **47**, wherein set of data rings includes a plurality of data rings is anticipated by “*data ring 19 and control ring 25*” as disclosed in column 6, lines 26-51 or Fig 3A.

Regarding claim **48**, wherein first sink port snoops the data packet received by said set of input ports is anticipated by “*data distribution unit coupled to sink port is operative to read header information of the data burst received from packet buffer of associated source device*”, disclosed in column 15, lines 35-44 and determines whether to accept a first data packet based on a set of criteria wherein said set of criteria includes said first data packet being targeted to a destination identified in said first port address tables “*packet routing table coupled to the data distribution control unit forwards the data packet to the destination identified*” disclosed in column 14, lines 55-63.

Regarding claim **49**, wherein set criteria includes:

Said first sink ports having sufficient storage resources for storing said data packet is anticipated by *"monitoring the availability of buffer space in corresponding one of the transmit buffer queues"* disclosed in column 15, lines 44-47; and

A total number of packets being received by said sink port not exceeding a predetermined number of packets is anticipated by *"credit value indicative of a number of available blocks at the transmit buffer queue"* disclosed in column 15, lines 47-56.

Regarding claim 50, wherein first sink port includes:

A interface in communication with said set of input ports to receive data from data packet is anticipated by *"packet buffer control unit 340"* disclosed in Fig 3A;

A storage buffer coupled to said interface to receive and store data is anticipated by *"packet-buffer 100"* disclosed in Fig 3A

An output port coupled to said storage buffer to receive data from said storage buffer *"packet buffer 100 coupled the output port through the data distribution control unit 240"* disclosed in column 13, lines 5-29 or Fig. 3A and transmit said data on a communication link is anticipated by *"transmit buffer queues are connected to 10 Mbps or 100 Mbps data communication links"* disclosed in column 8, lines 52-55.

Regarding claim 51, wherein said storage buffer is adapted to concurrently store plurality of data packets is anticipated by *"the packet buffer 100 provides for storing data packets received via network input ports 88"* disclosed in column 8, lines 17-20.

Regarding claim 52, wherein said interface is adapted to access first port address table to determine whether a data packet has a destination corresponding to a destination in said first port address table is anticipated by *"packet routing table 304"*

identifies the (sink port) destination port which is communicatively coupled to the destination end node specified by the destination address" disclosed in column 14, lines 12-28.

Regarding claim **53**, wherein said first sink port includes a configuration block adapted to receive configuration packets is anticipated by *"packet transfer notification message"* disclosed in column 16, lines 61-67.

Regarding claim **54**, wherein said configuration block is adapted to store destination identifiers from said configuration packets in said first port address table is anticipated by *"packet transfer notification message including corresponding destination ID value"* disclosed in column 16, lines 61-67.

Regarding claim **55**, A cross-bar switch is anticipated *"packet transfer switching devices"* disclosed in column 6, lines 27-31; comprising:

A set of input ports to receive data packets is anticipated by *"input ports 88 designated as A_0 , A_1 , A_7 "* disclosed in Fig 3A or column 8, lines 5-8

A set of sink ports coupled to the set of input ports to receive and forward said data packets is anticipated by *"output-ports 84 designated as A_0' , A_1' , A_7' "* disclosed in Fig 3A or column 8, lines 5-8;

A set of data rings in communication with said set of input ports and said set of sink ports is anticipated by *"data ring 19 and control ring 25 communicating with said set of input and output ports"* as disclosed in column 6, lines 26-51 or Fig 3A.

A set of port address tables in communication with said set of sink ports, wherein each port address table in said set of port address tables is adapted to identify a

plurality of destinations supported by a sink port in said set of sink ports is anticipated by *"destination identification mapping table"* disclosed in column 23, lines 25-64.

Regarding claim **56**, wherein said set of port address tables includes first port address table adapted to store data identifying a plurality of destinations supported by a sink port in said set of sink ports is anticipated by *"first destination mapping table portion for providing mapping between destination ID and corresponding destination ports"* disclosed in column 23, lines 35-47;

Regarding claim **57**, the apparatus of claim 56, further including:

A second port address table adapted to identify second destination as being supported by second sink port in said set of sink ports is anticipated by *"second destination mapping table portion for providing mapping between destination ID and corresponding destination ports"* disclosed in column 23, lines 35-47;

Wherein said first port address table identifies said second destination as being supported by said first sink port is anticipated by *"packet routing control units reads the packet routing table to determine a destination port for each packet"* disclosed in column 23, lines 1-5.

Regarding claim **58**, wherein first sink port snoops the data packet received by said set of input ports is anticipated by *"data distribution unit coupled to sink port is operative to read header information of the data burst received from packet buffer of associated source device"*, disclosed in column 15, lines 35-44 and determines whether to accept a first data packet based on a set of criteria wherein said set of criteria includes said first data packet being targeted to a destination identified in said first port

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address tables *"packet routing table coupled to the data distribution control unit forwards the data packet to the destination identified"* disclosed in column 14, lines 55-63.

Regarding claim 59, wherein set criteria includes:

Said first sink ports having sufficient storage resources for storing said data packet is anticipated by *"monitoring the availability of buffer space in corresponding one of the transmit buffer queues"* disclosed in column 15, lines 44-47; and

A total number of packets being received by said sink port not exceeding a predetermined number of packets is anticipated by *"credit value indicative of a number of available blocks at the transmit buffer queue"* disclosed in column 15, lines 47-56.

Regarding claim 60, wherein first sink port includes:

A interface in communication with said set of input ports to receive data from data packet is anticipated by *"packet buffer control unit 340"* disclosed in Fig 3A;

A storage buffer coupled to said interface to receive and store data is anticipated by *"packet-buffer 100"* disclosed in Fig 3A

An output port coupled to said storage buffer to receive data from said storage buffer *"packet buffer 100 coupled the output port through the data distribution control unit 240"* disclosed in column 13, lines 5-29 or Fig. 3A and transmit said data on a communication link is anticipated by *"transmit buffer queues are connected to 10 Mbps or 100 Mbps data communication links"* disclosed in column 8, lines 52-55.

Regarding claim **61**, wherein said storage buffer is adapted to concurrently store plurality of data packets is anticipated by *"the packet buffer 100 provides for storing data packets received via network input ports 88"* disclosed in column 8, lines 17-20.

Regarding claim **62**, wherein said ring interface is adapted to access first port address table to determine whether a data packet has a destination corresponding to a destination in said first port address table is anticipated by *"packet routing table 304 identifies the (sink port) destination port which is communicatively coupled to the destination end node specified by the destination address"* disclosed in column 14, lines 12-28.

Regarding claim **63**, wherein said first sink port includes a configuration block adapted to receive configuration packets is anticipated by *"packet transfer notification message"* disclosed in column 16, lines 61-67.

Regarding claim **64**, wherein said configuration block is adapted to store destination identifiers from said configuration packets in said first port address table is anticipated by *"packet transfer notification message including corresponding destination ID value"* disclosed in column 16, lines 61-67.

Regarding claim **65**, A method comprising the steps of:

(a) a set of input ports receiving a set of data packets is anticipated by *"input ports 88 designated as A_0 , A_1 , A_7 "* disclosed in Fig 3A or column 8, lines 5-8;

(b) a sink port in a set of sink ports, accepting data packet in said set of data packets is anticipated by *"output-ports 84 designated as A_0' , A_1' , A_7' "* disclosed in Fig 3A or column 8, lines 5-8;, wherein said step (b) includes the step of:

(1) said sink port determining that first data packet has first destination supported by said sink port is anticipated by *"data distribution unit coupled to sink port is operative to read header information of the data burst received from packet buffer of associated source device"*, disclosed in column 15, lines 35-44

(2) said sink port accepting said first data packet is anticipated by *"providing data packet to the corresponding N network output ports"* disclosed in column 8, lines 1-5

(3) said sink port determining that second data packet has a second destination supported by said sink port, wherein said first destination is different than said second destination *"distribute data burst to the appropriate ones of network output ports"* disclosed in column 15, lines 35-44, and

(4) said sink port accepting second data packet *"providing data packet to the corresponding N network output ports"* disclosed in column 8, lines 1-5

(c) said sink port, collecting data packet accepted by said sink port is anticipated by *"plurality of transmit buffer queues-80"* disclosed in Fig 3A or column 12, lines 63-67, wherein said step (c) includes the steps of:

(1) said sink port collecting data for said first data packet is anticipated by *"transferring data packet to the corresponding transmit buffer queues"* disclosed in column 13, lines 10-15, and

(2) said sink port collecting data for said second data packet is anticipated by *"transferring data packet to the corresponding transmit buffer queues"* disclosed in column 13, lines 10-15

Regarding claim **66**, the method of claim 65, further including the step of
(d) transferring said data packets from said set of input ports to a set of data rings in communication with said set of sink ports is anticipated by *"source device managing process for transmitting data packets from set of input ports to set of data rings in communication with said set of output ports"* disclosed in column 26, lines 46-67 –column 27, lines 1-30 or Fig 8.

Regarding claim **67**, the method of claim 65, further including the steps of:
(e) an input port in said set of input ports receiving a configuration packet containing data identifying destinations supported by said sink port is anticipated by *"packet transfer notification message"* disclosed in column 16, lines 61-67; and
(f) said sink port collecting data from said configuration packet, wherein said data collected in said step (f) identifies destination supported by said sink port is anticipated by *"Packet Allocation Message collected by the destination device which identifies the destination is supported to the output port"* disclosed in column 27, lines 33-67 and column 28, lines 1-14.

Regarding claim **68**, wherein said data collected in said step (f) identifies said first destination and second destination is anticipated by *"destination bit-map indicates a local device"* disclosed in Fig 9A block 738a or column 27, line 50-67.

Regarding claim **69**, wherein said step (b)(1) includes the step of:
(i) said sink port identifying data in a port address table indicating that said sink port supports said first destination is anticipated by *"first destination mapping portion 572"* disclosed in column 23, lines 35-43, and

wherein said step (b)(3) includes the step of

(ii) said sink port identifying data in said port address table indication that said sink port supports said second destination is anticipated by “first destination mapping portion 574” disclosed in column 23, lines 42-48

Regarding claim 70, wherein step (b) includes the step of:

(5) said sink port determining whether a set of criteria is met is anticipated by “destination arbitration process” disclosed in column 29, line 10-column 32-line 16 or Figs 10A, 10B & 10 C wherein said step b(5) includes the steps of :

(i) determining whether said set of sink port is enabled to receive data packets is anticipated by “*arbitration between multiple local and remote competing request to access the corresponding destination port*” disclosed in column 29, lines 10-20;

(ii) determining whether said of sink port has sufficient resources to store said first data packet and said second data packet is anticipated by “*minimum bandwidth resources available for transfer of selected packet*” disclosed in column 30, lines; lines 60-67 or block 772 in Fig 10B

(iii) determining whether said sink port is currently receiving a maximum allowable number of packets is anticipated by “determine number of blocks (credit) of spaces available at transmit buffer associated with selected packet” disclosed in column 29, lines 55-65 or block 760 in Fig 10A;

(iv) determining whether said first data packet has a number of bytes within a predetermined range is anticipated by “*output buffer manager 244 of the data*

distribution control unit determines credit of space is available at the associated destination one of the transmit buffer queues indicated by selected packet" disclosed in column 29 line 66-column 30 line 15.; and

(v) determining whether said second data packet has number of bytes within a predetermined range is anticipated by *"output buffer manager 244 of the data distribution control unit determines credit of space is available at the associated destination one of the transmit buffer queues indicated by selected packet"* disclosed in column 29 line 66-column 30 line 15.;

Regarding claim **71**, the method of claim 65 further including the step of:

(g) said sink port issuing a rejection signal if said sink port determines not to accept said data packet in said step (b), wherein the rejection signal terminates further reception of the said data packet by the said sink port is anticipated by *"terminate the message"* disclosed in block 736a in Fig. 9A.

Regarding claim **72**, the method of claim 65 further including the step of:

(h) said sink port transmitting said data packet collected in said step (c) is anticipated by *"transmission queues 80 which are connected to communication link"* disclosed in column 8, line 50-55.

Regarding claim **73**, the method of claim 65, further including the steps of:

(j) a second sink port in said set of sink port, accepting data packet in said set of data packets is anticipated by *"destination managing behavior"* disclosed in Fig 9A wherein said step(j) includes

(1) said second sink port determining that said first data packet is targeted for said first destination is anticipated by “destination ID indicates local device” disclosed in column 27, lines 50-61, and

(2) said second sink port accepting said first data packet is anticipated by “issue a request for accessing a destination network output port” disclosed in column 38, lines 1-14; and

(k) Fig 10A anticipates “said second sink port collecting data packets said second sink port” wherein said step (k) includes the step of:

(1) said second sink port collecting data for said first data packet is anticipated by “selecting the data packet for access to specified destination output port” disclosed in column 29, lines 35-43.

Regarding claim 74, A method comprising the steps of:

(a) a set of input ports receiving a set of data packets is anticipated by “input ports 88 designated as A_0 , A_1 , A_7 ” disclosed in Fig 3A or column 8, lines 5-8;

(b) transferring said set of data packets from said set of input ports to a set of data rings in communication with set of sink ports is anticipated by “data ring 19 and control ring 25 communicating with said set of input and output ports” as disclosed in column 6, lines 26-51 or Fig 3A.

(c) a sink port in said set of sink port is anticipated by “plurality of transmit buffer queues-80” disclosed in Fig 3A or column 12, lines 63-67, accepting data packets in said set of data packets from said set of data rings, is anticipated by “data ring 19 and control ring 25 communicating with said set of input and output

ports” as disclosed in column 6, lines 26-51 or Fig 3A. wherein said step (c) includes the steps of:

(1) said sink port determining that first data packet has first destination supported by said sink port is anticipated by *“data distribution unit coupled to sink port is operative to read header information of the data burst received from packet buffer of associated source device”*, disclosed in column 15, lines 35-44

(2) said sink port accepting said first data packet is anticipated by *“providing data packet to the corresponding N network output ports”* disclosed in column 8, lines 1-5

(3) said sink port determining that second data packet has a second destination supported by said sink port, wherein said first destination is different than said second destination *“distribute data burst to the appropriate ones of network output ports”* disclosed in column 15, lines 35-44, and

(4) said sink port accepting second data packet *“providing data packet to the corresponding N network output ports”* disclosed in column 8, lines 1-5

(c) said sink port, collecting data packet accepted by said sink port is anticipated by *“plurality of transmit buffer queues-80”* disclosed in Fig 3A or column 12, lines 63-67, wherein said step (c) includes the steps of:

(1) said sink port collecting data for said first data packet is anticipated by *“transferring data packet to the corresponding transmit buffer queues”* disclosed in column 13, lines 10-15, and

(2) said sink port collecting data for said second data packet s anticipated by “ *transferring data packet to the corresponding transmit buffer queues*” disclosed in column 13, lines 10-15

Regarding claim **75**, method of claim 74 further including the steps of:

(e) an input port in said set of input ports receiving a configuration packet containing data identifying destinations supported by said sink port is anticipated by “*packet transfer notification message*” disclosed in column 16, lines 61-67; and

(f) said sink port collecting data from said configuration packet, wherein said data collected in said step (f) identifies destination supported by said sink port is anticipated by “*Packet Allocation Message collected by the destination device which identifies the destination is supported to the output port*” disclosed in column 27, lines 33-67 and column 28, lines 1-14.

Regarding claim **76**, wherein said step (c)(1) includes the step of:

(i) said sink port identifying data in a port address table indicating that said sink port supports said first destination is anticipated by “first destination mapping portion 572” disclosed in column 23, lines 35-43, and

wherein said step (c)(3) includes the step of

(ii) said sink port identifying data in said port address table indication that said sink port supports said second destination is anticipated by “first destination mapping portion 574” disclosed in column 23, lines 42-48

Regarding claim **77**, wherein step (c) includes the step of:

(5) said sink port determining whether a set of criteria is met is anticipated by “destination arbitration process” disclosed in column 29, line 10-column 32-line 16 or Figs 10A, 10B & 10 C wherein said step b(5) includes the steps of :

(i) determining whether said set of sink port is enabled to receive data packets is anticipated by *“arbitration between multiple local and remote competing request to access the corresponding destination port”* disclosed in column 29, lines 10-20;

(ii) determining whether said of sink port has sufficient resources to store said first data packet and said second data packet is anticipated by *“minimum bandwidth resources available for transfer of selected packet”* disclosed in column 30, lines; lines 60-67 or block 772 in Fig 10B

(iii) determining whether said sink port is currently receiving a maximum allowable number of packets is anticipated by “determine number of blocks (credit) of spaces available at transmit buffer associated with selected packet” disclosed in column 29, lines 55-65 or block 760 in Fig 10A;

(iv) determining whether said first data packet has a number of bytes within a predetermined range is anticipated by *“output buffer manager 244 of the data distribution control unit determines credit of space is available at the associated destination one of the transmit buffer queues indicated by selected packet”* disclosed in column 29 line 66-column 30 line 15.; and

(v) determining whether said second data packet has number of bytes within a predetermined range is anticipated by *“output buffer manager 244 of the data*

distribution control unit determines credit of space is available at the associated destination one of the transmit buffer queues indicated by selected packet" disclosed in column 29 line 66-column 30 line 15.;

Regarding claim 78, the method of claim 65, further including the steps of:

(j) a second sink port in said set of sink port, accepting data packet in said set of data packets is anticipated by *"destination managing behavior"* disclosed in Fig 9A wherein said step(j) includes

(1) said second sink port determining that said first data packet is targeted for said first destination is anticipated by *"destination ID indicates local device"* disclosed in column 27, lines 50-61, and

(2) said second sink port accepting said first data packet is anticipated by *"issue a request for accessing a destination network output port"* disclosed in column 38, lines 1-14; and

(k) Fig 10A anticipates *"said second sink port collecting data packets said second sink port"* wherein said step (k) includes the step of:

(1) said second sink port collecting data for said first data packet is anticipated by *"selecting the data packet for access to specified destination output port"* disclosed in column 29, lines 35-43.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Puneet Bhandari whose telephone number is 571-272-2057. The examiner can normally be reached on 9.00 AM To 5.30 PM:

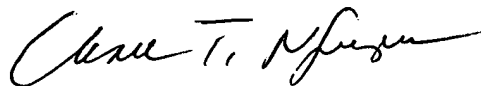
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Puneet Bhandari
Examiner
Art Unit 2666

PB.



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